

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-08 SY-05 H-01 SS-15  
USSS-00 PA-01 NSC-05 CPR-02 /054 W  
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R 131453Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0280

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 14952

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: OTRA OVIP (MAREI, SAYED)  
SUBJECT: VISIT OF MAREI DELEGATION

REF: CAIRO 14444

1. AMBASSADOR AND ACTING AID DIRECTOR MET WITH SPEAKER MAREI AND PARLIAMENTARIANS WHO WILL ACCOMPANY HIM MORNING JUNE 13. MAREI SPECIFICALLY REQUESTED BRIEFING ON AID PROGRAM TO ENABLE DELEGATION DISCUSS SUBJECT FULLY AND ADDRESS POSSIBLE U.S. CONGRESSIONAL CONCERNS WITH PROGRAM. (SPEAKER MAREI, IN PRIVATE CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR, NOTED HE REGARDED VISIT OF GREAT IMPORTANCE BUT ALSO HAD SOME APPREHENSIONS ABOUT IT. THESE HAD TO DO WITH SLUGGISH PACE OF M.E. PEACE PROCESS.)

2. AID. ON AID MATTERS, DISCUSSION CENTERED ON RATE OF DISBURSEMENT OF DIFFERENT COMPONENTS OF AID PROGRAM, EGYPT'S ABSORPTIVE CAPACITY AND EGYPTIAN ABILITY PROVIDE FINANCING FOR LOCAL COSTS INVOLVED IN CAPITAL PROJECTS. EGYPTIAN PARLIAMENTARIANS ALSO EXPLORED PRIVATE SECTOR'S ROLE IN DEVELOPMENT AND HOW IT MIGHT BE INCREASED. LIMIT OF TIME DID NOT PERMIT DISCUSSION OF TOPICS OF POPULATION PRESSURES AND ECONOMIC REFORM MEASURES. IN GENERAL,  
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THINKING OF PARLIAMENTARIANS SEEMS TO PARALLEL OUR OWN AND PARLIAMENTARIANS APPEAR TO BE FAIRLY FAMILIAR WITH NATURE AND OPERATION OF AID PROGRAM. HOWEVER, MEETING PROVIDED US WITH UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY DISCUSS SOME OF OUR CONCERNS WITH INFLUENTIAL MEMBERS OF PEOPLES ASSEMBLY. WE PROVIDED PARLIAMENTARIANS WITH SOME BACKGROUND MATERIAL ON AID PROGRAM. WE ALSO UNDERSTAND MINISTRY OF PLANNING

WILL PROVIDE A BACKGROUND PAPER ON ECONOMIC/ASSISTANCE TOPICS FOR THEIR USE.

3. DELEGATION. TO STRENGTHEN EXPERTISE IN AID FIELD, MAREI HAS ADDED TEWFIQ ABU ISMAIL (DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF PA ECONOMIC COMMITTEE) TO DELEGATION. HE WILL BE PRIMARY SPOKESMAN ON ECONOMIC RELATED MATTERS. DELEGATION ALSO MAY INCLUDE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE DR. LAYLA TAKLA. MAREI'S OFFICE WILL CONFIRM LATER TODAY. MAREI ASSISTANT EL HEFNI TOLD EMBOFF THAT, ASIDE FROM PARLIAMENTARIANS, MOHAMED RAMSIS HEGAZI NOW DEFINITE, WHILE IHAB WAHBA (FOREIGN MINISTRY) WILL BE ASSIGNED TO EGYPTIAN EMBASSY FOR DURATION OF STAY. WAHBA WILL NOT BE MEMBER OF DELEGATION. NEITHER WILL ACCOMPANY MAREI BEYOND WASHINGTON.

4. ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS. EL HEFNI REPEATED REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON WHICH MEMBERS OF DELEGATION WILL BE INVITED TO WHICH FUNCTIONS (REFTEL). EL HEFNI ALSO QUERIED EMBOFF ON GROUND TRANSPORTATION IN WASHINGTON, NOTING GHORBAL'S MOTOR POOL LIMITED. EMBOFF SUGGESTED ADDITIONAL VEHICLES, IF NEEDED, MIGHT POSSIBLY BE PROVIDED BY HOUSE AND/OR DEPARTMENT. EL HEFNI GAVE EMBOFF "FINAL" COPY MAREI SCHEDULE. ONLY SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE IS SUGGESTION SPEAKER WILL MEET SEPARATELY WITH SECRETARY VANCE MORNING JUNE 22.  
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EMBOFF REITERATED ONLY MEETING SCHEDULED IS JUNE 23 LUNCHEON AT DEPARTMENT. IN VIEW PARTY'S EARLY ARRIVAL IN WASHINGTON, SUGGEST DEPARTMENT DISCUSS SCHEDULE IN DETAIL WITH EL HEFNI SOON AFTER DELEGATION'S ARRIVAL TO INSURE THERE NO MISUNDERSTANDINGS ON TIMING OR ON PARTICIPATION IN SCHEDULED EVENTS. EILTS

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## Message Attributes

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